

Plunging in Liberty Bonds Is Nothing — Compared to Plunging Into Machine Gun Fire!

Yank Advance Threatens Hun Greatest Line

Gen. March Reveals Danger to Germans of Cutting Communications

Tells the Position of U. S. Troops

Chief of Staff Explains Just Where American Units Are Fighting

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5.—The American advance northwest of Verdun threatens the greatest single line of communication between Germany and the West front, General March said today, and General Pershing's forces have now reached a point within eighteen miles of this great artery.

The progress of the American forces caused the German General Staff to throw into this sector many divisions of reinforcements, the Chief of Staff said, but despite this the positions won not only have been maintained, but the troops have pushed forward until they now face the German Kriemhild line of defense.

Summarizing the news for the past week as excellent, General March said offensive conducted by the Allies on three major sectors had resulted in a forward movement of the battlefield for practically the entire stretch from the North Sea to Verdun. General Gouraud's army, just west of the Argonne forest, has fought its way forward to a point where it also threatens German communication lines.

The British drive on Cambrai and St. Quentin, which was aided by the 27th (New York troops) and 30th (Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina and District of Columbia troops) American divisions, developed into a battle for the entire Hindenburg line. The British, General March said, have broken entirely across the enemy's zone of defense, making breaches in the line which were closed by the Germans only with great difficulty.

Of the 30th Division, General March said the artillery brigade now was attached to the 8th Division (Kansas, Missouri, South Dakota, Nebraska, Colorado and Arizona troops) and was not engaged near St. Quentin with the infantry.

The 77th Division (New York National Army), which took its place on the Vesle line late in August, General March said, participated in the advance to the Aisne between September 4 and 14. The 88th Division (North Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa and Western

Illinois troops) has not yet been reported in action, he continued, and its permanent commander has not been named. Brigadier General W. D. Beach is in temporary command.

The War Department has no definite information as to the divisions engaged in the drive by the American First Army west of the Meuse, but General March thought it probable that the 35th Division (Missouri and Kansas National Guard) was in this area.

The 89th Division, he said, was last reported on the St. Mihiel line and the 88th in training in an American area. The 33rd division (Illinois National Guard) was reported near Verdun on September 14 and the 82nd (Georgia, Alabama, Florida and Tennessee troops) on the line in the Woerthe sector.

In Flanders the drive of the Allies has reconquered seventy-five square miles of Belgian territory and has formed a semi-circular salient ten miles deep. Ostend and Zeebrugge, German submarine bases, are threatened that it is reported their evacuation has begun. The British are within five miles of Lille.

Referring to the Balkan situation, General March said the Italian advance in Albania is closely following the Austrian army, retiring along the coast. He added that the recent naval attack upon Durazzo behind the Austrian front, was extremely important in connection with the Allied strategy. American troops at Archangel are commanded by Colonel George E. Stewart and include the 339th Infantry, part of the 310th Engineers (both Michigan and East Wisconsin troops) and the necessary hospital and medical units.

General Hutchins Back Home

The return to this country of Brigadier General Henry Hutchins, formerly with the Texas National Guard troops in France, was announced by General March, who said General Pershing had asked permission to send this officer home. The reason for the transfer was not announced. General March added that orders for General Hutchins's discharge from the service had not been issued.

The assignment of Brigadier General Hugh Johnson, formerly executive officer of the provost marshal general and General Crowder's chief assistant during the first draft, to command a brigade of the 8th Division at Camp Fremont, Cal., was announced today. The appointment is in line with the policy of the War Department to give line officers who have been held in Washington for special service a chance to get to the front with troops.

Despite the epidemic of Spanish influenza, embarkation of American troops is being continued at the rate of more than 250,000 a month, General March announced. The total embarked to date has passed the 1,800,000 mark. The September shipments exceeded 250,000, although cases of influenza in camps at home exceeded 100,000. The policy of the War Department in sending overseas only men who have not had the disease and who have not been exposed to it has necessitated material readjustments of the shipping schedule, but has not interfered with the total number embarked.

Yanks Advance Four Miles in New Attack

(Continued from page 1)

Proceeding this withdrawal the Germans applied the torch to Douai, further north, besides many villages near Cambrai.

The Belgian War Office reports that in the Belgian offensive, with British and French forces assisting, begun September 28,

The Official Statements

BRITISH

LONDON (NIGHT).—Operations of a minor character were continued successfully by us to-day north of St. Quentin. Australian and English troops, accompanied by tanks, made progress in the neighborhood of the villages of Montbrechain and Beaurevoir and on the spur northwest of the latter village. A number of prisoners have been taken.

As a result of our continued pressure along the whole front, the enemy has begun to withdraw from the high ground known as La Terriere Plateau, in the bend of the Scheldt Canal, between Le Catelet and Crevecoeur.

On the whole front between these two villages our troops are now east of the canal. Driving in the German covering detachments, they have gained possession of La Terriere and a section of the Hindenburg system in this neighborhood.

The enemy is burning Douai. LONDON (DAY).—In successful minor operations yesterday north of St. Quentin we made substantial progress southeast of Beaurevoir and north of Gouv and Le Catelet, capturing 806 prisoners.

At night our line again was advanced slightly northwest of Le Catelet.

FRENCH

PARIS (DAY).—We have taken Chardon-Vert, south of Sequehart, and many fortified woods. We have captured Morecourt, where we took 400 prisoners and four cannon.

North of St. Quentin the fighting continues with violence. The French have driven back the enemy foot by foot from the height 112 metres southeast of Chardon-Vert and the wood near by. We have taken additional prisoners.

Northwest of Rheims we have resumed our vigorous pressure against the enemy along the whole front of the Aisne canal, which we crossed at several points. Our troops have progressed to the outskirts of Bernicourt. The number of prisoners counted during the past five days is more than 2,500. Thirty-one cannon fell into the hands of the French, including twenty of large calibre, of which five were 210's.

In Champagne the French and

Americans continued their attacks and realized an advance yesterday in the direction of the Arnes, compelling the enemy, who was endangered, to retire on his left flank and withdraw hurriedly from part of the territory east of the region of the Monts. French troops on the sector west of the Suipe, pursuing the enemy rear guards, reached at night the height 800 metres southeast of Moronvilliers.

South of Montheis the French broke up German counter attacks against the Croix des Soudans and maintained their gains. The enemy, with heavy reinforcements, disputed the terrain on the front between Oeffel and Montheis with extreme stubbornness.

BELGIAN

HAVRE (DAY). The attack begun on September 28 by the Belgian army and the British Second Army in co-operation with French forces resulted in the first forty hours in the capture of the entire Flanders ridge. The advance was continued in a series of detailed operations in which we passed beyond the Flanders ridge and gained further terrain. In the operations we were able to advance fourteen kilometres on a front of forty kilometres.

Ypres and Dixmude were freed completely and we gained the river Lys from Antwerp to Wervicq. We took 10,500 prisoners, 350 guns, 200 trench mortars and 600 machine guns.

ITALIAN

ROME.—In the Tonale region, southeast of Ponte di Eravall, our detachments surprised and destroyed an enemy post, capturing the few survivors.

At Dosso Casina an enemy assault patrol was driven back. On the Asiago Plateau British detachments broke into the enemy's lines, devastated his works and dispersed the garrison. We captured 150 prisoners.

North of Monte Grappa the enemy attacked our front from the head of the Strizzone Valley to Monte Solarolo. He was repulsed everywhere, except at Malga Valper, where he gained a footing.

clearing the country north of Damascus.

Defeated Huns Vent Spite by Burning Villages in Retreat

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, Oct. 5 (By The Associated Press) (11 a. m.).—Great tongues of flame were shooting up to-day from the city of Douai and more fires have been started in Cambrai. The Germans also have applied the torch to many villages in the Cambrai area.

The flames and smoke rolled up from the ruined places, accompanied by explosions, as the Germans blew up the stores they were unable to save and which they did not wish to leave behind, fearing they would be used by the British to hasten the German retreat.

It is evident that the Germans were prompted solely by rage in applying the torch to many of the places to which they set fire. They are destroying things of no military value to any one and the destruction of which simply adds to the general devastation of the country.

Village after village in all the country east and southeast of Cambrai and Douai is ablaze. The German is realizing that he must get out of this country and seems determined to lay it low in his spiteful fury. He has even set fire to the wreckage of ruined houses, while the homes of the peasant poor, in which they might have lived again, have gone up in flames as the Germans retreat.

Everywhere the British were continuing to-day to make advances, so that the movement is general, even if the push ahead at any particular place is slight. The positions at the breach in the Hindenburg system at Beaurevoir have been further improved and nearly 1,000 prisoners have been taken in this area.

During the night the British appeared to have regained possession of Beaurevoir and of the railway at Ponthaux.

In the Beaurevoir fighting the British have pushed their way through the German forces until the latter have now been reinforced with cooks and officers' servants, who have been thrown into the line with rifles. Apparently every available German has been brought out for active service in this locality.

Weak enemy forces attempted listless attacks between Blecourt and Tilloy, and the British had no trouble whatever in smashing them up completely.

Yanks Reinforce Gouraud's Army on Aisne Battle Line

By Arthur S. Draper

(Special Cable to The Tribune) (Copyright, 1918, New York Tribune Inc.)

LONDON, Oct. 5.—For the moment interest centres in the developments west of Lille and in the Champagne, where the Americans have reinforced Gouraud's army in the battle on the Aisne. The British are keeping in close contact with the German rear guards covering the withdrawal from the Lille salient.

In the Champagne there has been a sudden jump forward following the introduction of American troops. The Americans seem to have joined the French at the psychological moment. From Medrat Farm to the Vouziers Railway it is just three miles along the national roads. The Germans have a powerful line north of the railway, but it is not quite ready, which ex-

plains the bitterness with which they are contesting every foot.

The piercing of the last defence system just north of St. Quentin has alarmed the enemy greatly and he has reacted powerfully at several points. More German counters are certain to come in this region as well as north of Cambrai.

Meanwhile Haig has an opportunity to rest and reorganize his troops and bring up guns for the final chapter, which will be the great Cambrai epic. It is an interesting fact that, with the exception of Champagne, all of Foch's great drives since September 16 died down in a week. Champagne is hardly an exception, because fresh American troops were employed. The history of the years of fighting has shown no major drive by either side exceeded eight days. This is true of the March push on the Somme, the April attack on Arras, the May dash on the Marne, the August attack on the Somme and the September smash at the Wotan line.

Americans Drive

Foe Back Despite Bitter Resistance

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY NORTHWEST OF VERDUN, Oct. 4 (By The Associated Press).—"Between the Meuse and the Argonne a greater loss of territory will have dangerous consequences, particularly for the Germans," is a sentence found in a document recently reaching American intelligence officers. This clearly reflects the point of view of the Germans as to further abandonment of territory west of Verdun.

Berlin advisers may attribute a German retreat to strategic considerations, but any withdrawal that the Germans may make will be under stress of compulsion from the Allied forces.

The late hours of to-day's fighting accompanying the American advance witnessed a notable increase in the heaviness of the German artillery fire and the activity of the German aviators.

The effect of the American artillery bombardment is known to have been considerable. It left one battalion of the enemy with only two machine guns. It has also been learned that the seven German divisions on this front have been badly cut up since September 26. One battalion had only 150 men left. One of the Guards divisions has been taken out of the fighting altogether, while another has had its ranks filled in with landwehr.

In the attack made yesterday east of the Argonne Forest the corps holding the middle line, the American line met with most determined resistance during the day. The Americans advanced behind a terrific barrage fire. This bombardment of the enemy lines, at 5:30 o'clock, twenty-two shells falling each minute along the German lines. This was gradually increased to fifty a minute at 6:45 o'clock.

The American fire had hardly begun to slacken when the German batteries began to speak, and the enemy's machine guns began to impede the advance of the Americans. Nevertheless, the troops on the centre moved steadily ahead. They fought their way through Cierges, which they had shared for several days with the enemy, and before noon had driven the Germans out of the town.

The American troops on the left kept in perfect touch with the centre and rapidly cleaned up Exermont and Chichery and captured Elicelle. By noon they had mopped up La Viergette and Le Menil farm, as well as the Grange farm. They had also taken Hill 250. This advance had been just as rapid as that of the troops further to the east, notwithstanding the fact that they went over the top at 5:30 o'clock without any artillery preparation and handled the Germans a big surprise.

Just south of Chichery the general advance was slowed up by a German counter attack, and American tanks had to be sent for to drive the enemy back.

The Germans have deliberately set fire to the villages of Romagne, Genes, Cornay, Bantheville, Chevrières, St. Juvin and Marq.

French Firm for Severe Reprisals

Senators Say Germans Must Be Given Real Dose of Their Own Tactics

By Caspar Whitney

(Special Cable to The Tribune) (Copyright, 1918, New York Tribune Inc.)

PARIS, Oct. 5.—French Senators are determined to warn Germany that reprisals will be made for every town destroyed.

The leader of Parliament said to me last night: "As the Boche devastated our orchards and our farms last year so now are they ruining our villages in retreat. Ham blown up, St. Quentin a wreck, Cambrai and Roulers in flames and Douai, Courtrai and Lille are being evacuated by civilians, we hear, undoubtedly preparatory to burning them. We are urging the government to invite Great Britain, America and Italy to issue a united notification to Germany that for every act of their brutal policy payment in full will be exacted."

"Germany recognizes no right except might, no suasion but fear, and one hope of saving our cities is through her feeling that she must pay town for town and village for village."

In the devastating campaign the wake of the retreating army of the Boche is carrying out a deliberate plan, long cherished. Frequently during 1915 and 1916, while on relief work behind their lines, I heard in high officers' headquarters that they intended "so to destroy France that she could never recover," nor will the vandalism be halted, save by the application of his own pet nostrum, terrorism, before which, as already seen in the bombing visits to the German cities, he quails like the yellow cur he is at heart.

The only sure cure is retaliation by a fleet of Ally planes bombing at one time a German town until it is wiped off the face of the map. Such persuasion, and such only, could the Boche understand.

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WRITTEN GUARANTEE FOR ONE YEAR

Serbs Drive Huns Toward Turk Frontier

Ottoman Empire to Fall to Winner of Race for Constantinople Road

LONDON, Oct. 5.—Austro-German troops have been defeated in fighting with the Serbians who pursued them toward the old Serbo-Turkish frontier, says a Serbian official statement of Friday.

The statement reads: "We have repulsed Austrian and German reinforcements after some fighting and have pursued them toward the old Serbo-Turkish frontier. We captured 100 prisoners."

The Germans and Austrians, "The Daily Mail" says, are making great efforts to place a new army in Bulgaria in order to hold the railroad to Constantinople. Men are being drawn from thirty-four German and twelve Austrian divisions in Russia, but the divisions generally are poor in quality and weak in numbers.

Germany can use railroads and the Black Sea to throw troops quickly into Constantinople, their chief aim, the paper adds, being to maintain land communications with Constantinople and to prevent the Allies from getting in touch with Rumania.

Constantinople is at the mercy of the guns of the battleship Goeben, and the forts at the Dardanelles are manned by picked Germans.

The Turkish attitude, concludes "The Daily Mail," is one of helpless expectation, and Turkey will be the prize of the army which wins the race for the railroad.

PARIS, Oct. 5.—Allied forces in Serbia have come into contact with the Austro-Hungarians near Vranje, Southern Serbia. Serb forces, operating against the Austrians, took Pretyas Thursday.

The French War Office statement on operations in Macedonia issued last night reads:

"The measures agreed to in the armistice are being carried out. On October 3 Allied troops came into contact with Austro-German forces south of Vranje, Southern Serbia. To the west of Lake Ochrida Serbian forces on September 30 occupied Pretyas, on the El Bazar road, taking 100 prisoners and an important quantity of war material."

ROME, Oct. 5.—Italian columns pursuing the retreating Austro-Hungarians in Albania yesterday passed beyond the Lushnja River and reached the Rivers Kuvaya and Polozim. The Italians are continuing their advance toward Elbasan, thirty miles northeast of Berat, according to an official statement issued by the War Office to-day.

More than 7,000 Bulgarian troops facing the Italian positions on the Monastir-Kichevo road surrendered October 3. Much booty was captured by the Italians.



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